

Section 102(b) Rejection

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 3, 6-8, 12-15, 19-20, 24-26, 28, 31-33, and 37-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Vacon, et al. (hereinafter "Vacon") (U.S. Patent 5,227,778). As set forth in more detail below, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as to the currently pending claims.

In regard to claims 1 and 26, Vacon does not teach a space service configured to provide functions to manage or access one or more service advertisements in the space, wherein the functions of the space service are invoked according to a schema specifying one or more messages for invoking functions of the space service. The Examiner states that Vacon teaches (col. 4, lines 1-67) the space service (service providers) comprising a schema (fields), wherein the schema specifies one or more messages (advertising messages) usable to invoke functions (function) of the space service. The service advertising message of Vacon "is sent periodically by each host 14, by which it identifies itself (by network address) and the service or services provided at its node." (Vacon -- col. 4, lines 17-21). Vacon teaches that this message is periodically broadcast on the network to indicate a rating for a service regarding the delay for using the service, e.g. due to network traffic (Vacon -- col. 4, lines 21-43). The advertising message in Vacon is not accessed in a space by invoking functions of a space service according to a schema specifying one or more messages for invoking functions of the space service. When a client in Vacon desires a service, it does not access a space service according to a schema for the space service, select a service advertisement from the space managed by the space service, and use the information from the selected service advertisement to execute the corresponding service. Instead, a user terminal 12 in Vacon requests service from a server 11 which sends out a multi-cast service request on the network (see Vacon Fig. 3, steps 28 and 29). The server 11 does not send the request to any particular service, but instead sends out a multi-cast request. The server then either receives a reply (Fig. 3, step 45), uses a cache entry (Fig. 3, step 51 or 52), or waits

for one of the periodic service advertisement broadcasts to match the request (Fig. 3, steps 53-55). The server then initiates a connection to the service (Fig. 3, step 47). The Vacon process clearly does not correspond to Applicants' claimed invention.

Similarly, in regard to claim 14, Vacon does not teach a first service operable to send a message according to a schema for a space service to publish a service advertisement with the space service, and a client operable to communicate with the space service according to the message schema for the space service to access the space service and select the service advertisement from the space service, and wherein the client is further operable to use the information from the service advertisement to execute the first service.

Section 103(a) Rejection

The Office Action rejected claims 2, 4-5, 9-11, 16-18, 21-23, 27, 29-30, 34-36 and 39-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vacon in view of Fields et al. (hereinafter "Fields") (U.S. Patent 6,128,655). Applicants traverse this rejection in light of the following remarks.

Claims 2, 4-5, 9-11, 16-18, 21-23, 27, 29-30, 34-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vacon in view of Fields. Applicant asserts that these claims are patentable for at least the reasons given above in regard to their respective independent claims.

In regard to claims 39 and 47, Vacon in view of Fields does not teach or suggest storing a set of information in a space by sending at least one message specified in a schema for the space, wherein the schema specifies a plurality of messages usable to invoke functions of the space, and wherein the space is addressable at a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI); a client locating the space at the URI; the client retrieving the set of information from the space by sending at least one of the messages specified in the schema for the space. As explained above in

regard to the § 102 rejection, Vacon does not teach a space having a schema specifying a plurality of messages to usable to invoke functions of the space for storing and retrieving information in the space. Instead Vacon teaches a system employing multi-cast requests and advertisements. Furthermore, the combination of Vacon and Fields is improper. The Examiner relies on Fields to teach a set of information being expressed in a data representation langue, a space addressable at a URI, the client locating the space at the URI and the client retrieving the set of information expressed in the data representation language from the space by sending at least one of the messages specified in the schema for the space. The Examiner's modification of Vacon in light of Fields is improper. Fields teaches, "the pass through publisher 101 at the hosting site 103 is provided with the URLs 105 for the desired content provider" (col. 4, lines 25-27). Fields teaches, "Upon a request from a client for a given web page, typically made through an HTTP request . . . the hosting site makes a request 117 for the page." (col. 4, lines 33-38, Fig. 2). Thus, Fields teaches requesting a web page at a given URL. This teaching is completely unrelated to the Vacon system. In contrast, Vacon teaches, "a user terminal 12 makes a request of a server 11 that results in the server recognizing the need of a given type of service. The server 11 . . . sends out a multi-cast request . . . directed to all of the host nodes 14 (service providers) on the network" (col. 5, lines 25-34, Fig. 3). Vacon teaches, "the terminals may seek to access various services provided by the network. These services will be requested by name, rather than by network address . . . a server sends onto the network a multi-cast message to all service providers requesting a service . . . In the multi-cast request message, the service is identified by function, rather than by network address. Any node on the network which is a provider of the requested service . . . sends a reply message to the server" (col. 1 lines 62 – col. 2, line 8). The intended purpose and main principle of operation of the Vacon system is the multi-cast request mechanism in which services are requested by name, rather than by network address. Thus, Vacon teaches away from using an address such as a URI to for a client to locate and access a space. The Examiner's modification would destroy the intended purpose of Vacon's teachings. If proposed modification would render the prior art invention being modified unsatisfactory for its intended purpose, then there is no suggestion or motivation to make the proposed modification. *In re Gordon*, 733 F.2d 900, 221 USPQ 1125 (Fed. Cir.

1984). If the proposed modification or combination of the prior art would change the principle of operation of the prior art invention being modified, then the teaching of the references are not sufficient to render the claims *prima facie* obvious. *In re Ratti*, 270 F.2d 810, 123 USPQ 349 (CCPA 1959).

Similar arguments apply in regard to claim 43.

Information Disclosure Statements

Applicants note that three different information disclosure statements with accompanying Forms PTO-1449 were submitted on July 10, 2001, August 15, 2001, and September 11, 2001, respectively. Applicants request the Examiner to carefully consider the listed references and return copies of the signed and initialed Forms PTO-1449 from each statement.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is requested.

If any extension of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) is necessary to prevent the above referenced application from becoming abandoned, Applicants hereby petition for such extension. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Conley, Rose, & Tayon, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5181-67400/RCK.

Also enclosed herewith are the following items:

- Return Receipt Postcard
- Petition for Extension of Time
- Request for Approval of Drawing Changes
- Notice of Change of Address

Marked-up Copy of Amended Claims
 Marked-up Copy of Amended Paragraphs
 Fee Authorization Form authorizing a deposit account debit in the amount of \$
for fees ().
 Other:

Respectfully submitted,



Robert C. Kowert
Reg. No. 39,255
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Conley, Rose & Tayon, P.C.
P.O. Box 398
Austin, TX 78767-0398
Phone: (512) 703-1271

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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A method comprising:

a client accessing a space service according to a schema for the space service, wherein the space service is operable to store one or more service advertisements in a space, [and] wherein each of the service advertisements comprises information which is usable to access a corresponding service, and wherein the space service is configured to provide functions to manage or access the one or more service advertisements in the space, wherein the functions of the space service are invoked according to the schema for the space service which specifies one or more messages for invoking functions of the space service;

the client selecting one of the service advertisements from the space; and

the client using the information from the selected service advertisement to execute the corresponding service.

14. (Amended) A system comprising:

a client;

a first service; and

a space service which is communicatively coupled to the client and the first service;

wherein the first service is operable to send a message according to a schema for the space service to publish a service advertisement with the space service,

wherein the service advertisement comprises information which is usable to access the first service;

wherein the space service is operable to store the service advertisement; and

wherein the client is operable to communicate with the space service according to the message schema for the space service to access the space service[.] and select the service advertisement from the space service, and wherein the client is further operable to use the information from the service advertisement to execute the first service.

26. (Amended) A carrier medium comprising program instructions which are computer-executable to implement:

a client accessing a space service according to a schema for the space service, wherein the space service is operable to store one or more service advertisements in a space, [and] wherein each of the service advertisements comprises information which is usable to access a corresponding service, and wherein the space service is configured to provide functions to manage or access the one or more service advertisements in the space, wherein the functions of the space service are invoked according to the schema for the space service which specifies one or more messages for invoking functions of the space service;

the client selecting one of the service advertisements from the space; and

the client using the information from the selected service advertisement to execute the corresponding service.